



News Release

March 20, 2006

The KBI will be conducting a news conference and demonstration of the latest Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) on Tuesday, March 21st, 11:00 a.m. at the KBI Headquarters, 1620 SW Tyler, Topeka, Kansas.

Attorney General Phill Kline and Director Larry Welch will comment on this significant step forward in biometric identification. There will then be a signing ceremony of the new contract between the KBI and the new AFIS contractor, Sagem Morpho, Inc., followed by a demonstration of some of the state of the art identification equipment and technology involved. AFIS is the heart of the criminal history database for the entire Kansas criminal justice system as well as reporting arrests to the national database maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The 3.6 million dollar Morpho system will put Kansas on the cutting edge of biometric identification.

The new biometric identification capabilities, including attaching digital images and 'two finger' wireless identification, which allows patrol officers to scan fingerprints from their patrol cars of suspects, will substantially enhance both Kansas homeland security and criminal justice capabilities.

Demonstrations for the media of the new technology will follow the signing ceremony. Parking will be reserved for the media on the west side of the building.

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